

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method or apparatus for transferring packets, which enables fast lines to be housed for a high load service that requires many calculations in an edge node in a communication network, in which data flows are concentrated. Information obtained from an input packet is held in a table entry in the apparatus and whether to perform such a processing as encryption, etc. is decided according to the state of the source or destination of the input packet or the internal state of the apparatus, thereby performing such a processing as encryption only for necessary packets and reducing the number of calculations.